

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ACDA-12 /091 W
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O R 301638Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 318
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI NIACT IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 10836

FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON NAMIBIA

REF: (A) STATE 219790 (NOTAL), (B) GABORONE 2732

1. CHARGE AND POLCOUNS MET WITH MEA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR SANU TODAY (AUGUST 30) TO MAKE DEMARCHE
ALONG LINES REFTTEL A. SANU SAID THAT HARRIMAN HAD ALREADY BEEN
INSTRUCTED NOT TO ATTEND INFORMAL COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS ON
31ST AND NOT TO AGREE TO SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING BEFORE SEPTEMBER
11. SANU SAID THAT AFRICAN GROUP DOES NOT BELIEVE IN RUSHING
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TO SCHEDULE A MEETING BEFORE THEY AND SWAPO HAVE TIME TO STUDY
AHTISAARI'S REPORT AND AS YET THEY HAVE NOT EVEN RECEIVED IT.
HE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE NIGERIANS WANT TO HAVE TIME TO CONSULT
WITH SAM NUJOMA. FURTHERMORE, THE HEAD OF STATE WANTS ADEFOPE
TO ATTEND THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING AND HE TOO NEEDS TIME TO
STUDY THE MATTER. WHEN CHARGE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN THAT THE
SUCCESS OF A POSITIVE TRANSITION OF NAMIBIA TO INDEPENDENCE

MAY DEPEND ON MOVING QUICKLY IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND POINTED TO THE INCREASED MILITARY ACTIVITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, SANU RESPONDED TO THE EFFECT THAT IT WAS EXPECTED THAT SWAPO SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN ITS POSITION BEFORE A CEASE-FIRE WERE DECLARED.

3. SANU FINALLY AGREED TO IMMEDIATELY INSTRUCT HARRIMAN TO ATTEND THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING TOMORROW MORNING ON THE UNDERSTANDING IT WAS ONLY A MEETING TO DISCUSS TIMING. HE WOULD ALSO BE REMINDED, HOWEVER, THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD HE AGREE TO A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING BEFORE SEPTEMBER 11.

4. COMMENT: ON LEAVING SANU, WE ENCOUNTERED DR. FAFOWARA LEAVING THE BUILDING AND MENTIONED OUR MEETING WITH SANU. FAFOWARA VOLUNTEERED THE INFORMATION THAT SAM NUJOMA WAS ARRIVING IN LAGOS TONIGHT. (AN HOUR EARLIER, ITALIAN CHARGE ARAGONA GAVE THE SAME INFORMATION TO POLCOUNS, SAYING THAT NIGERIANS ASKED NUJOMA TO COME.) FAFOWARA SAID THAT ORIGINALLY HE AND NUJOMA WERE GOING TO PROCEED TOGETHER TO NEW YORK ON SUNDAY. HOWEVER, HE HAD JUST BEEN INFORMED TO CANCEL THE RESERVATIONS. WHEN ASKED ABOUT NUJOMA'S PLANS NOW, HE SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY STAY IN LAGOS TWO OR THREE DAYS AND THEN RETURN TO LUSAKA.

5. WE WERE LEFT WITH DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT NIGERIANS ARE DELIBERATELY STALLING TO: A) ASSERT THEIR LEADERSHIP; B) GET A DATE TO FIT IN WITH ADEFOPE'S SCHEDULE (FYI: WE KNOW HE WILL CONFIDENTIAL

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BE OCCUPIED THROUGH SEPTEMBER 3 WITH VISIT OF CZECH FORMIN. END FYI); AND C) BUY TIME FOR SWAPO TO "STRENGTHEN THEIR POSITION". LEWIS

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